

I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize the McCrossan Boys Ranch for its 50 years of outstanding service. It is an honor for me to share with my colleagues the exemplary leadership and strong commitment to education McCrossan Boys Ranch provides. I strongly commend their years of hard work and dedication, and I am very pleased that their substantial efforts are being publicly honored and celebrated.●

HONORING THE CITY OF CORSICA, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and publicly recognize the 100th anniversary of Corsica, SD. It is at this time that I would like to draw attention to and commemorate the achievements and history of this charming city on the South Dakota prairie, which stands as an enduring tribute to the fortitude and pioneer spirit of the Dakotans.

Corsica, located in northern Douglas County in southeastern South Dakota, was founded out of a need to service a new railroad built several miles from the existing towns of Harrison and Armour. On August 17, 1905, Corsica officially became a town when 25 acres of prairie where auctioned off to the highest bidders. It was suggested by several of the railroad company's employees that the town be named Corsica in honor of the island of Corsica, their native home, and the new residents agreed.

Corsica grew rapidly and within weeks included the Floete Lumber Company, a grocery store, the Hafsaas boarding house, Corsica State Bank, Farmers State Bank, a newspaper office, and several restaurants. The town was incorporated on January 24, 1905, and local elections quickly followed to select city officials.

After 2 years, Corsica's population was estimated at nearly 500 people, and the town then boasted three general stores, a furniture store, two newspapers, two hotels, two livery stables, two churches, a water system, and a public hall.

The history of Corsica is, however, marked with its share of tragedy, as well. On October 16, 1907, the first fire of which there is a record burned one of the town's most prosperous businesses to the ground. John Van Ommeren's livery barn was completely destroyed and five horses, several buggies, and other personal belongings were all lost. Additionally, 8 years later, on July 15, 1915, a tornado struck the community, resulting in severe damage. Despite the devastation, Corsica's dedicated and resilient residents committed themselves to the rebuilding effort with undaunted determination.

One of Corsica's unique landmarks is the Priscilla Club Library, established in 1912. The library began as a book club, the Priscilla Club, comprised of 12 women sharing a dozen books between themselves. It evolved into an organi-

zation of women selling their embroidery and holding suppers in order to raise funds and purchase additional volumes. This small but well intentioned club amassed an immense collection of literature and cultural artifacts requiring an entire building to accommodate it all. The library now houses more than 10,500 books and hundreds of audiovisual materials. For a community of only 625 residents, this collection is a tremendous accomplishment and treasure.

Through the years, the proud residents of Corsica have demonstrated great flexibility and perseverance in their ability to thrive on the prairie of the Dakotas. I take this opportunity to recognize the history of the small city of Corsica and congratulate its residents as they celebrate their vibrant, century-long history on July 2-4, 2005.●

HONORING COMMISSIONER PAT KLABO

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I stand today in recognition of the long career of public service had by a very special woman, Aberdeen City Commissioner Pat Klabo, who is retiring from her position on June 30 after 18 years of dedicated service in city government. A tireless advocate for the health and well-being of her community, Commissioner Klabo's presence will surely be missed by residents of South Dakota's third-largest city.

Commissioner Klabo's rise to prominence in local government was not something preordained. As in most stories of American democracy, her call to lead was motivated not by personal ambition or pedigree but by the calls of those around her to take up the mantle of leadership. Her first foray into public service began when these calls of concerned citizens were beckoning her to bid for the Aberdeen mayor's office back in 1987. After a spirited campaign, she was defeated by fellow city commissioner Tim Rich, but was then appointed to fill out the remainder of Mr. Rich's term. Ever since that appointment, Commissioner Klabo has become a veritable fixture in Aberdeen politics.

In her position as commissioner of the water and wastewater departments for the last 17 years, Commissioner Klabo has proven to be a very capable leader on a number of issues that impact the vitality of both Aberdeen and the entirety of northeastern South Dakota. She was instrumental in overseeing the improvements made to Aberdeen's water treatment plant, an act that will prove key to the city's prospects for growth in the new millennium. Commissioner Klabo also oversaw the city's expanded use and development of wells on private lands, a partnership between public service and private enterprise that has proven beneficial to all in the community.

Even with such dedication to local government, Commissioner Klabo still somehow finds the time and energy to

engage in other pursuits that benefit the community. Her work as a part of the group Persons With Disabilities is a prime example of this. Forty years of service helping some of society's most vulnerable individuals speaks to the highest character of humanity. Commissioner Klabo is also a founding member of the Aberdeen Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities, a body on which she has now served for more than a decade. In this position, she has ensured that people with disabilities have a voice at the table when important decisions are made at city hall.

It is my great pleasure to share a few words about Ms. Klabo's accomplishments with my colleagues and to note in the public records her contributions to my home State. It will be difficult to lose such a committed civil servant, especially one who has proven to be such an asset to her community. On the behalf of all South Dakotans, I would like to wish her the very best for her retirement.●

HONORING THE COMMUNITY OF STICKNEY, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor and publicly recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of the town of Stickney, SD. On July 4, 2005, Stickney residents look back on their community's proud past and look forward to a promising future.

Located in southeastern South Dakota in Aurora County, Stickney was platted August 17, 1905. Like many towns in South Dakota, Stickney got its start with help from the railroad, specifically the Milwaukee Railroad. In fact, the town was named for the oldest railroad agent in the United States, John B. Stickney of Mazomanie, Wisconsin.

Just before Christmas, 1905, construction of the tracks was finally complete. Shortly thereafter, on January 1, 1906, "Maude," the line's first train, ventured into town. Following Maude's arrival, Stickney quickly flourished. By mid-1906, the town boasted three lumber companies, two hardware stores, two livery barns, a funeral home, a general store, a post office, a hotel, a pool hall, a blacksmith shop, two banks, and four grain elevators.

On June 29, 1906, John McNeil published Stickney's first newspaper, *Postal Card*. Not long after its inception, McNeil sold the paper to J.S. Schuldt, who converted the printing shop into a schoolhouse. Grade school classes were held in the rear of the building, while high school classes were taught in the front. This establishment, like the paper, was also short lived, as a new school was constructed in 1907 to better accommodate the rapidly increasing number of students.

In the century since its founding, Stickney has proven its ability to thrive. Stickney's more than 300 proud residents celebrate the community's 100th anniversary on July 4, 2005, and it